THE MAGAZINE FOR COMPACT DISC INTERACTIVE

# CD-i

Volume 1 Issue 1

## In this issue


SPITTING IMAGE

"PULLING FACES" WITH CD-i

CD-i STORMS U.K.

TOTAL TITLE GUIDE


TECHNOLOGY

CD-i YOU CONTROL

PRICE £1 ONLY

PHILIPS

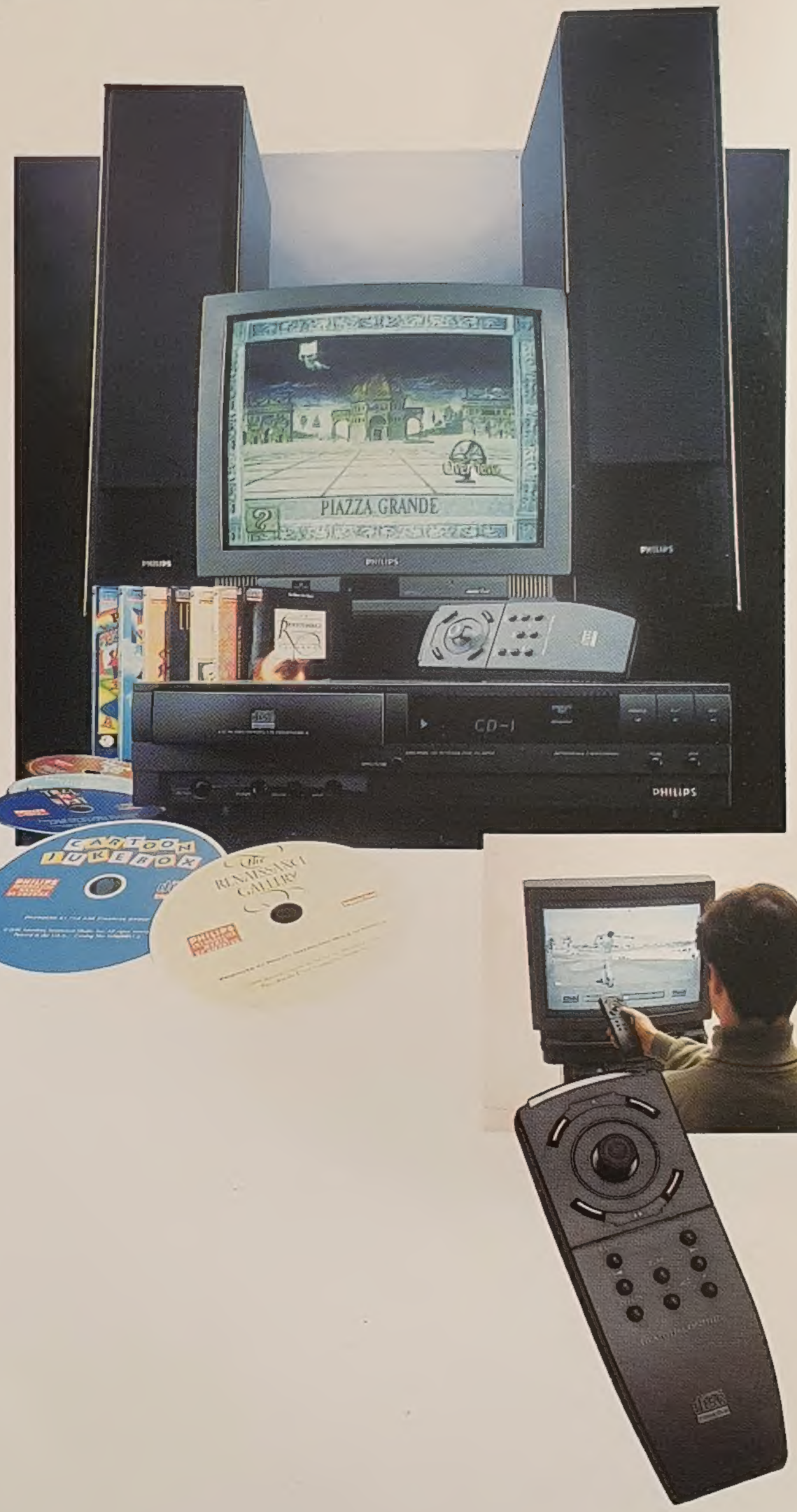
# the inventors

# CD-I

With a CD-I player, pure digital sound is only the start. Connect it to a TV and CD-I brings into play an exciting new world of interactive entertainment and education where you are in control.

ERT says that CD-I will "...quickly become the most desirable product electrical retailers have on their shelves, or rather, flying off them".

(ERT 23rd Jan '92)



**CD-I THE INTERACTIVE CD PLAYER FOR MUSIC AND MUCH MORE...**

PHILIPS

PHILIPS

# Welcome to CD-i

## CD-i: The Future is now

Welcome to the rich new world of Compact Disc-Interactive - the stunning new force in entertainment, information and learning.

Though CD-i has only been on sale for a very short time it's making a big impact. To those in the know that comes as no surprise; the system has vast potential to carry it through the '90s - and beyond.

The CD-i Magazine will chart that potential as it unfolds.

It's the first publication dedicated to the system and we hope to convey something of the excitement CD-i holds.

Our aims are simple: to keep you informed of the latest CD-i developments in an entertaining and dynamic way.

We'll keep you up to speed on new machines and the latest titles, give hints on how to get the best out of CD-i and lift the veil on some of tomorrow's system secrets.

And there'll be some pretty special offers for our readers.

CD-i IS the future - welcome to it!

# CD-i takes UK by storm!

**Compact Disc-Interactive is proving a major hit with the British public.**

Following CD-i's successful American introduction late last year, UK customers got their first chance to experience the system with the launch of Philips CDI 205 player in May.

Since then there's been no looking back with CD-i set to take off even faster than Compact Disc.

And that's no mean achievement considering the uniqueness of the CD-i concept. Its stunning mix of audio, video, graphics, animation and stills - all under your own interactive control - simply has no precedent.

But once people see it, they're hooked. Quite simply, CD-i is addictive.

And the drug doesn't wear off. Independent research shows that within a few weeks the average buyer has a library of around nine CD-i titles and a typical family uses the player for an incredible 40 hours per week. That's more time than many people spend actually watching TV!

They're also absolutely delighted with the product, with over 70 per cent of buyers saying they are 'very satisfied' with the system.

And these aren't 'rich kids' with time on their hands- they're ordinary people with average incomes. In fact, typical mass-market consumers.

That's the key to CD-i's success - getting as many players as possible into people's homes quickly. Then we'll see the all-important title catalogue grow even more dramatically.

CD-i now has over 50 titles available - and there are new releases every month. And by the end of next year there could be as many as 500 on sale - including films and interactive movies.

If you've already bought a CD-i machine, well done; you're at the forefront of this decade's most exciting new technology.

If you're thinking of buying one, don't wait. You'll find the experience fascinating.

But be warned - the CD-i habit is likely to cost you a good deal of sleep!

issue one

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# Spitting Image

Notorious latex lampooners Spitting Image show you how to dish the dirt in one of this autumn's most original CD-i titles - Create your own Caricature.

For this first major UK developed title, Philips and the creators of one of Britain's most successful TV series ever have teamed up to put **you** in the drawing seat.

The disc contains a complete history of cartooning and a total teach-yourself guide to developing your own comic genius.

But the really fun part is the ability to pull a real picture of any of 100 celebrities up on screen and then electronically distort them to create hilarious and grotesque parodies.

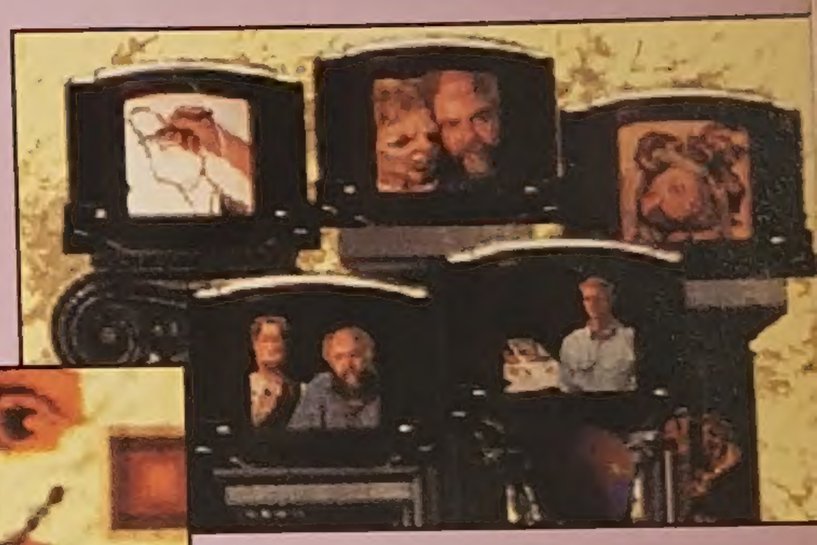
CD-i allows you incredibly detailed control of the images - you can just slightly twist the corner of a mouth, or build a vilely bulbous nose. The possibilities for mayhem are endless.

And the fun doesn't end there. It's possible to input your own photographs - via a Photo CD - and 'fiddle' with those too.

# nage on CD-i

PUSH

So if you want to have a unique 'go' at the mother-in-law or 'mess with mom' it's now entirely possible. And they can't bite back!



The rich and famous 'fodder' featured on the disc include Margaret Thatcher, Norman Tebbit, Kate Adie, Ester Rantzen, Edwina Currie, John Major (of course) and all our favourite Royals.

Latex masterminds Spitting Image appear on the disc with hints and tips. Believe us, it really is something special - everyone's going to be talking about it.

STRETCH

It's naughty, it's fun and it's on sale in November.

**Price:** £29.99
**Catalogue Number:**
811 000 1

**Sharpen that CD-i pencil now!**

## WIN 'SPITTING IMAGE' GOODIES

**We've got some great 'Spitting Image' goodies lucky readers can win to celebrate the launch of 'Caricature'. When you've finished toying with your own on-screen masterpieces, you can flick on the video to relive the greatest moments from the 'The Best of Spitting Image - is nothing sacred?' (Rated 15), or you could win an exclusive 'Spitting Image' T-shirt.**

There'll be two winners every month from November 1992 to March 1993 inclusive. The competition is dead easy - just answer two questions:

1. In which year does the 'Spitting Image' TV series celebrate its tenth anniversary?
a) 1992 b) 1995 c) 2000 d) 1993

2. Which 'Spitting Image' character is featured on the front cover of the 'Caricature' CD-i title?
e) Sir Norman Tebbit f) Kate Adie g) Baroness Thatcher h) Gabriela Sabatini

Please fill in the coupon and send to:
Pims Manchester, 'Caricature Competition'
Mallard Mailing Services
Unit 4b, Hallam Hill
Hallam Street
STOCKPORT SK2 6PT

Closing date: 31 March 1993. This competition is open only to people aged 15 and over. All winners will be notified by post.

Please state your T-shirt size (M, L, XL, XXL) and write your address CLEARLY so that we can send you your prize!

Answers: 1 ☐ 2 ☐

My T-shirt size is: M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐

I am over 15 years of age. Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you own a Philips CD-i player? Yes ☐ No ☐

*DATA PROTECTION ACT 1984. This information will be retained within Philips and may be used to offer you further products and services. If you would prefer not to receive such information please tick this box.* ☐

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

*Note: If you don't want to 'mess up' your first CD-i magazine, we will also accept photocopies of this coupon!*

# portables

## CD-i LEAVES HOME

CD-i has grown up and left home with the launch of Philips first portable - the stylish CDI 360.

This elegant all-in-one player measures just 194 x 49 x 95mm and weighs in at a light 2 lbs. It features a very high resolution 6" liquid crystal colour pop-up screen designed and made by Philips.

Handy and easy-to-use, the portable is ideally suited to a range of applications, but Philips expects to sell most players into the professional area. It's perfect for one-to-one and small-group business presentations.

But just like any other CD-i player it can also be connected to any television and hi-fi system.

Running off mains or battery power for go-anywhere use the CDI 360 will retail at around £1,500. Not cheap, but perfect for the businessman and well-healed gadget freak.

# full motion video FMV

## COMING SOON - CD-i MOVIES

*Full Motion Video - the CD-i feature that puts movies on CD - is now just round the corner.*

*From the end of 1992, the first FMV cartridges will become available and by early 1993, these upgrade kits will be on sale along with the first FMV titles.*

*FMV allows up to 72 minutes of fully digital video to be stored on a single CD-i disc and the quality goal is to make the pictures as good as S-VHS.*

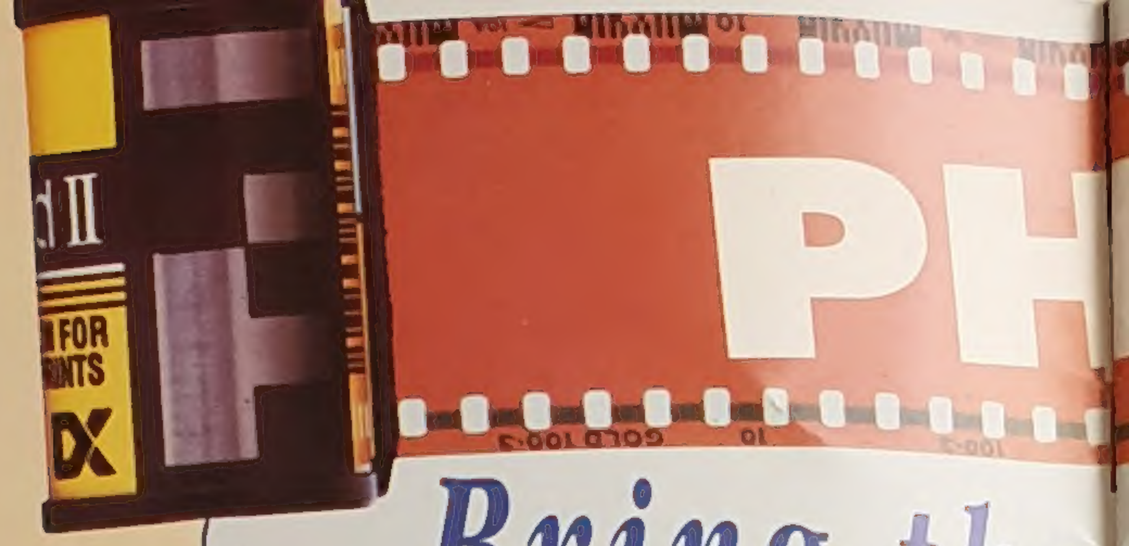
*The slot-in cartridge fits neatly into the back of the current CD-i players so that **you** can decide when you want to add this new feature.*

*FMV will not only add CD-i movies to your library but also you can expect pop music videos, karaoke and super, interactive film-enhanced games - even **more** realistic.*

*We must now wait to see what the title developers produce using the FMV facility. Yes, conventional films will appear on disc; but imagine controlling a 'real' Humphrey Bogart in a totally interactive movie.*

*Mind-boggling - but entirely feasible.*

**A scene from 007 movie 'The Living Daylights' - as demonstrated on FMV at various shows.**




# Bring the

Imagine seeing yourself on TV - or your friends and family. Thanks to an amazing new invention from Philips and Kodak called Photo CD you can now do exactly that.

# PHOTO CD

# *family album to life*

## How to get pictures on Photo CD

Photo CD™

Photo CD discs will of course run on CD-i machines as well as the new dedicated Photo CD players recently launched by Philips - two home decks and a transportable player.

Plug them - or a CD-i player - into your TV set and the family album takes on a whole new dimension. There - on screen - are your own shots, with a vividness never before imagined. And it's possible to zoom in on your favourite bit of the picture and enlarge it to full screen.

It's perfect for keeping those special moments for ever - CDs don't fade or wear out.

There will also be special interest pre-recorded Photo CDs. And soon it will be possible to add your own soundtrack or commentary.

**Getting your pictures onto Photo CD couldn't be simpler - just take your film into Boots or any other high street photo shop, and ask for the shots to be put on Photo CD. You can take the same disc back until 100 pictures are stored. The system will accept both 35mm print and slide film.**

**In the future you'll be able to add your own commentary or other soundtrack to enhance your TV 'slide show'.**

**Just take your Photo CD disc home, put it in your CD-i or Photo CD player and see your photos in superb quality on your own TV - stunning!**

# highlights

## SESAME STREET NUMBERS
## SESAME STREET LETTERS

The world of Sesame Street opens up hours of creative learning and play for children in these unique CD-i experiences.

BEST SELLER

While exploring Bert and Ernie's home, the Count's Castle and Big Bird's nest, children learn about numbers, take part in letter-based games and play with toys designed to reinforce learning.
Produced in conjunction with Children's Television Workshop, the originators of the television series, these CD-i titles include animated shorts from the award-winning programme. AGE 3-6
**£24.95**

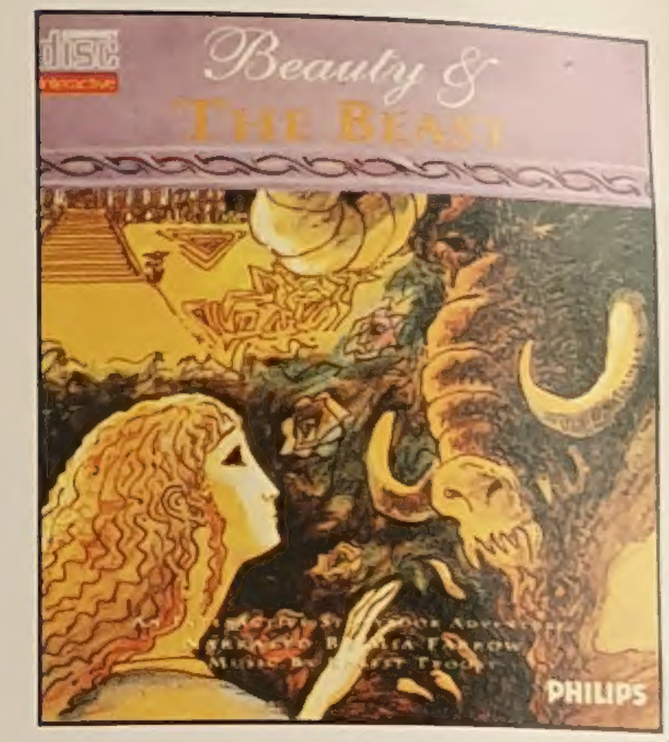
## FACE KITCHEN

### FACE KITCHEN

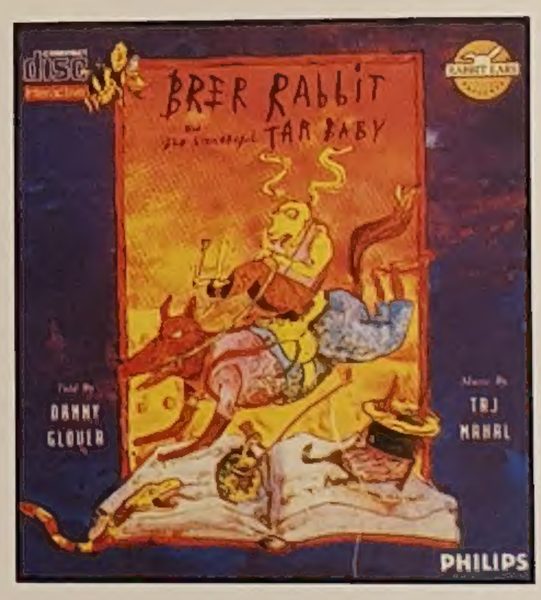
Master Chef, Uby, encourages children to 'cook up' faces by choosing and combining features to form a character. Once completed, Uby introduces the character, who appears as an animated talking head. The head tells a story, or a joke, or sings a song - all of which refer to the character's own particular combination of facial characteristics. Once the entertainment is over, Uby returns the children to the kitchen, where further faces can be 'cooked up'.
The disc contains over 500 different combinations of features, jokes and songs assuring hours of creative play along with the ability to 'store' and replay favourite characters. AGE 4-9
**£24.99**

## STORYBOOK ADVENTURE SERIES

***Each storybook has games to play and a 'Parent's Notes' mode that helps adults to guide their children's learning and enjoyment of these charming programmes. The games are designed to teach recall, comprehension and creative thinking.***




### BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

This timeless tale of enchantment and romance is narrated by Mia Farrow with music by Ernest Troost.
***NOW A MAJOR DISNEY FILM*** AGE 3+

### BRER RABBIT AND THE WONDERFUL TAR BABY

This tale is narrated by Danny Glover with music by Taj Mahal. AGE 3+

### HOW THE CAMEL GOT HIS HUMP
### HOW THE RHINOCEROUS GOT HIS SKIN

Jack Nicholson retells the classic fables from Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories with original music through the genius of Bobby McFerrin. AGE 3+

***Other Storybook titles include: Pecos Bill, Pegasus, The Emperor's New Clothes.***

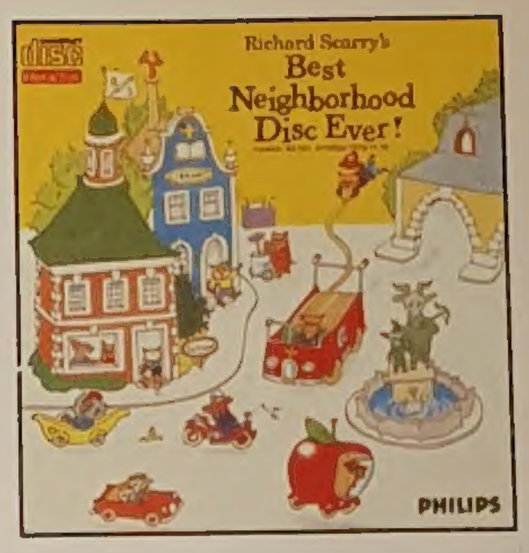
***All Storybook discs are priced at £14.95 or £14.99***

# roller controller

## Specially designed for children

**The thumbstick control on the standard CD-i can be just a bit too fiddly for small fingers. Now there's a specially designed ROLLER CONTROLLER for the kids - and we've found that some adults prefer it too!**

***ON SALE NOW***
***AT YOUR CD-i STOCKIST***
***Price: £50***




### RICHARD SCARRY'S BEST NEIGHBORHOOD DISC EVER!

Based on the best-selling children's books by author/illustrator, Richard Scarry.

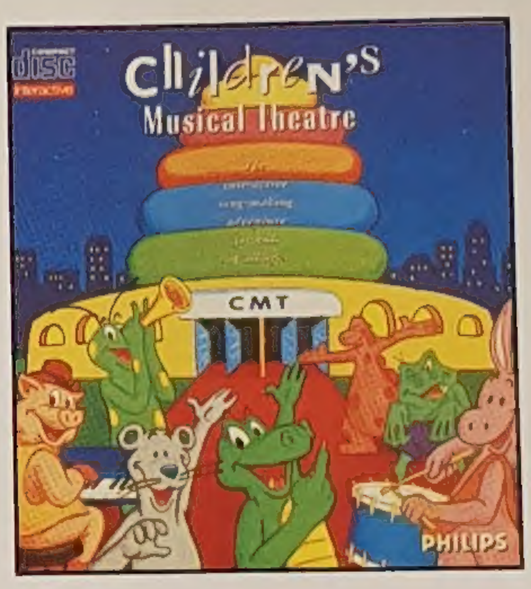
**£19.99**

AGE 3-6

### CARTOON JUKEBOX

CD-i technology brings a new dimension to the colouring book! Children can colour dozens of 'pages' from the ten animated cartoons of classic nursery songs - "Mary had a Little Lamb", "Pop goes the Weasel" - and then watch them come to life with the colours they've selected. Many of the songs also feature engaging, interactive games. This title encourages hand-eye coordination and recall skills and promotes learning and creativity.

**£19.95** AGE 3-7




### CHILDRENS MUSICAL THEATRE

Now children can put on their own shows by creating rock, classical or country & western songs with lyrics chosen from over 15,000 possibilities. Colourful animation changes to match the chosen lyrics. Children can mix the sounds of musical instruments in the 'recording studio' or choose to practise and perform their musical creations - all without the help of adults!

**£19.99** AGE 7-12

## coming soon . . .

### TOM

Teach your child the alphabet in 3 languages.

**£14.99** AGE 3-6

### FATHER CHRISTMAS

A new title from the Storybook Adventure Series especially for Christmas.

**£14.99** AGE 3+

### ZOMBIE DINOS FROM PLANET ZELTOID

A fully animated dinosaur game.

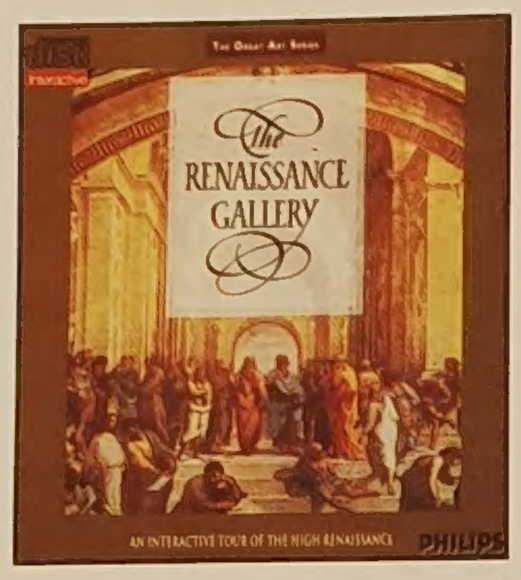
**£29.99** AGE 7+

LET'S KICK SOME BRAIN!

adult titles

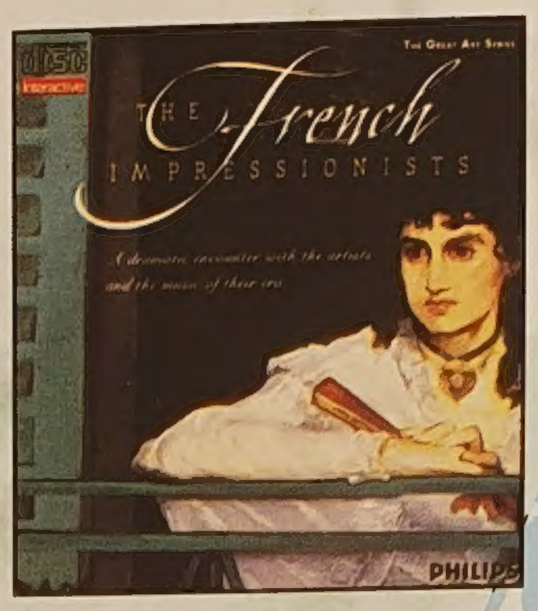
## HARVEST OF THE SUN - VINCENT VAN GOGH REVISITED

Explores the life and art of Vincent van Gogh with music by his contemporaries: Debussy, Franck, Chabrier, Bizet and others.
**£24.95**




## THE RENAISSANCE GALLERY

An interactive tour through the masterpieces and music of the Italian High Renaissance.
**£29.99**




## THE FRENCH IMPRESSIONISTS

Take a new and fresh look at the most popular artists of our age. Based on careful research and selections of letters and memoirs, this vivid interactive tour through time, back into 19th century Paris, lets you meet the impressionist artists and their friends, lovers and critics.
**£29.99**

# arts

***The Great Arts series, where the lives and times of famous artists come to life through breathtaking photography accompanied by contemporary music.***

## JAZZ GIANTS

From Big Band to Bossa Nova, experience an interactive jazz journey through 19 great songs. The big Basie beat, the bebop of Charlie Parker...the sass of Sarah Vaughan, the blues of Billie Holiday... Miles Davis' cool, Stan Getz's swing - all these Jazz Giants had an impact on the world of music and the world itself.
Artists' notes offer an illustrated biography on each performer and there is also information on the songs, the composition, the musicians, sessions stories and technique tips.
**£14.99**

## coming soon . . .

**Joining the visually breathtaking collection of the world of arts in the Great Arts series comes:**

## THE ART OF THE CZARS

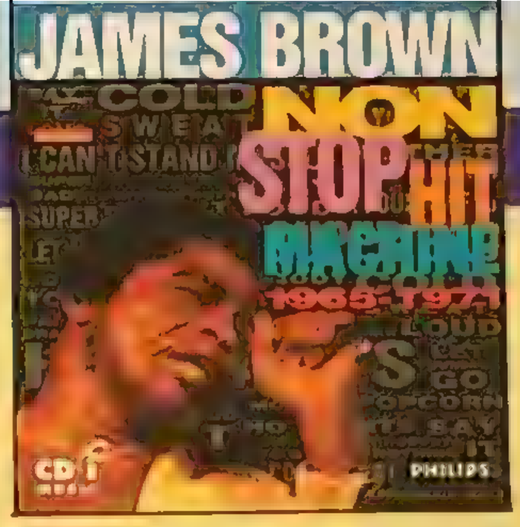
Explore the most beautiful city in Russia: St. Petersburg and visit its palaces and churches. At the Hermitage Museum (with over 1000 exhibits), enjoy a sweeping overview of the Western Schools from Leonardo da Vinci to Henri Matisse. Enriched with the music of Tchaikovsky, Grieg and Corelli.
**£29.99**

## REMBRANDT: HIS ART AND THE MUSIC OF HIS ERA

17th century art and music with the information in 7 languages: English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Dutch. The soundtrack of the disc - a new recording by the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra - can be played on most CD Audio players. A CD-i Music title.
**£14.99**

## ming soon . . .

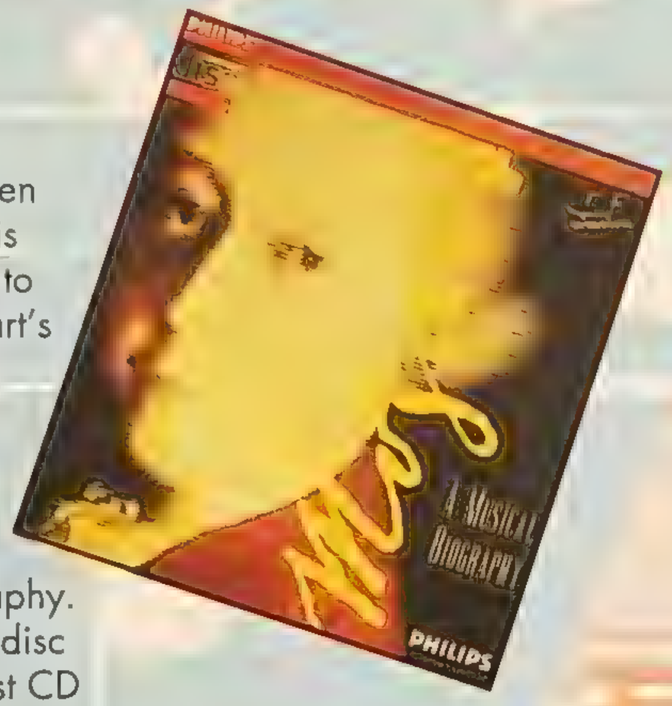
**BROWN: NON-STOP HIT MACHINE 1965-1971**
oJl's all-time greats, performs 13 songs live on this CD-i Music soundtrack of the disc can be played on most CD Audio players, can sing along to all your favourite hits with the aid of the lyrics.




**OLUTION IN COLOR**
the stunning Russian paintings of the modern era (1880-1925) in active tour through the renowned collections of the Tretyakov Museum in Moscow and the ssian Museum in St. Petersburg, accompanied by the music of Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, nd Grieg.

# music highlights

**MOZART**
Trace the highlights of Mozart's life through ten significant pieces of his music. From Salzburg to Paris to Vienna, Mozart's brief yet prolific life is illustrated through a magnificent montage of music and images presented in a narrated visual biography. The soundtrack of the disc can be played on most CD Audio players.
**£14.95**




**PAVAROTTI**
Listen to the world-renowned tenor sing 13 favourite Neapolitan songs while you explore his life story. CD-i brings you exclusive interview segments and interactive side trips where you can learn about other famous tenors, the music of Naples and much more! The soundtrack of the disc can be played on most CD Audio players.
**£14.95**

**TIME-LIFE PRESENTS 35MM PHOTOGRAPHY**
An interactive experience based on TIME-LIFE's classic book series - TIME-LIFE's Library of Photography - where your television screen becomes a simulated camera for a course in 35mm photography.
In 25 step-by-step workshops, you'll learn all the basic techniques of auto-focus photography - from focus lock and shutter-aperture control to depth of field. Take practice pictures and see the results instantly on screen, without wasting film!
Reviewed by many photographic magazines as being an exciting way of learning how to take better photographs.
**£34.95**

BEST SELLER

**TREASURES OF THE SMITHSONIAN**
Explore the highlights of a dozen museums in this unique, interactive title. From the Air & Space museum to the national Zoo, treasures range from the Bell X plane (which broke the sound barrier) to the Hope diamond (the largest stone). Through a linked database of the objects, you can choose to take a themed tour; look at items from a specific date or category or explore the links between items. As well as interesting commentary, detailed notes are also provided if you wish. Special features let you 'walk' around an object, play an instrument or zoom in for a closer look.
**£34.95**

BEST SELLER

# special interest

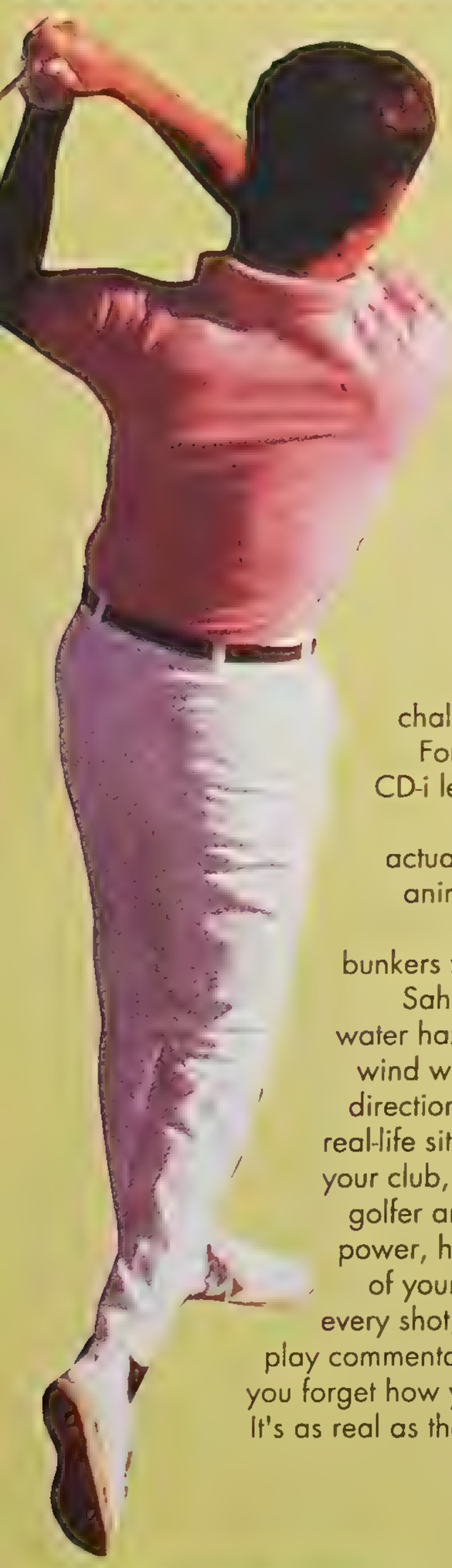
## coming soon . . .

**WHAT'S THAT BIRD?**
Bird identification with hundreds of species. Includes bird songs and different habitats.
**£29.99**

**PRIVATE LESSON CLASSICAL GUITAR**
The ultimate home tutor for those struggling to learn guitar. On the screen you actually see real video footage of the notes being played on the fretboard alongside the musical notation and a diagram showing where the fingers should be positioned. You can speed the lessons up or slow them down; learn at your own pace with no pressure!
There's also a built-in 'music generator' so you can develop your own backing tracks to play along to. The first in a uniquely helpful "Teach Yourself" series.
**£49.99**

# sport

**ABC SPORTS - POWER HITTER**
The ultimate baseball challenge which puts you against the game's great pitchers. Set your line-up from your roster of players; plan your strategy and make on-the-field decisions. The play by play announcer comments on your every move.
Now, for the first time, you become part of baseball - it's as real as the game itself.
**£29.99**



***Two golfing greats as 'played' in 'Sports Quarterly' Autumn 1992, by top international golfer - Tony Jacklin.***

**THE PALM SPRINGS OPEN**
Play 18 of the world's most famous and challenging holes! For the first time, CD-i lets you control live golfers on actual courses - not animated but real footage - with bunkers the size of the Sahara, countless water hazards and the wind which changes-direction - just like the real-life situation! Select your club, position your golfer and control the power, hook and slice of your swing. With every shot, two play-by-play commentators won't let you forget how you're doing! It's as real as the game itself.
**£39.95**

***For really top-rate game skills, why not get a CD-i joystick, available from your CD-i stockist? Price: £30***

**GREAT BRITISH GOLF**
Three interactive discs in one!
An historical trip through 500 years of golfing with a hitherto unpublished collection based on the material of St Andrews' own British Golf Museum.
When you think you know your golfing history, try the trivia quiz.
And for a different challenge, take your place in a sudden death playoff.
**£29.99**

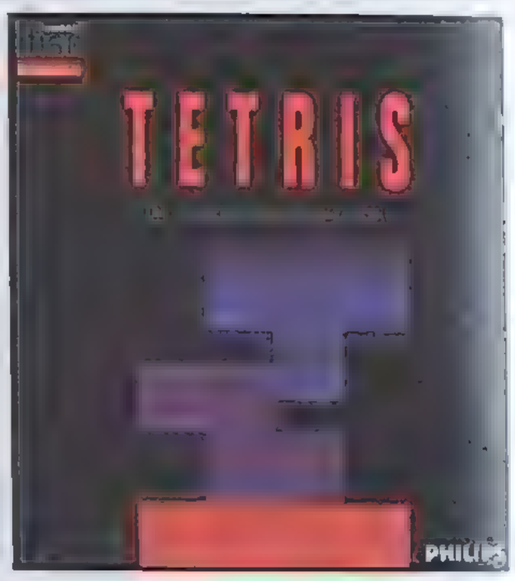
BEST SELLER

**CONNECT 4**
The CD-i version of the vertical chequers game is enhanced by sound, graphics and narration. You can choose to play against the computer at three levels: novice, amateur or expert - or against one other player. Hours of addictive, mind-bending fun for all the family.
**£14.99**

BEST SELLER

# highlights

**TETRIS**
This classic Russian game, recognised all over the world for its elegant simplicity and challenging game play, becomes the ultimate experience on CD-i! Along with original Tetris game play features, this disc has ten levels of play; spectacular motion video nature backgrounds and ten original CD soundtracks.
**£29.99**




# coming

**LORDS OF THE RISING SUN**
Exquisitely crafted Japanese strategy game now on CD-i featuring live actors.
**£24.99**

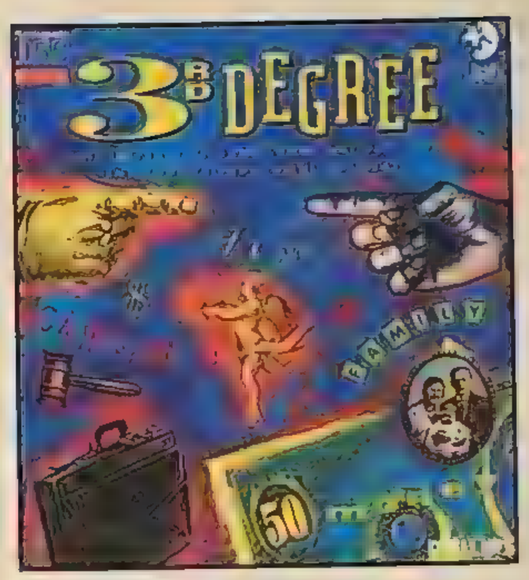
**SARGON CHESS**
Inspired by the master strategist and warlord who ruled the ancient world, this game will challenge, coach and entertain beginners and experts alike. Newcomers to the game can select one of the easier modes from Sargon's 16 levels or use the special 'Novice' level. There are helpful learning features that let you take back moves, ask for a hint, or change sides at any time. Experienced players can select from the upper range of Sargon's levels where you'll encounter the most advanced chess challenge available today!
**£29.95**

# games

## coming soon . . .

**BACKGAMMON**
This disc contains everything you need to play a game of backgammon: board, dice, doubling cube, even opponents, but on the screen of your TV! Three animated opponents, each with a different skill level, are provided to test your skill or you choose to compete with your friends - with the CD-i player acting as an impartial referee! You can even compete on a two-dimensional board where your opponent is faceless but every bit as competitive!
**£24.95**

**THIRD DEGREE**
Scruples on CD-i!
**£29.99**

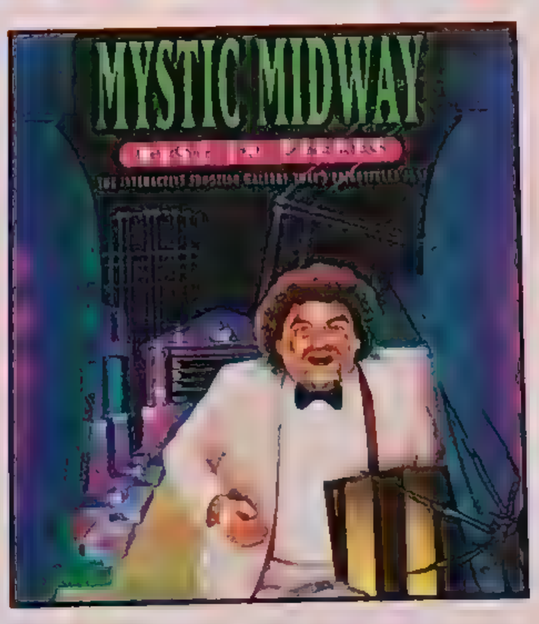


**CD SHOOT**
The ultimate in shoot 'em up games! Practice your shooting skill in **Sporting, Ball Trap, Olympic Trap** and **English Skeet**, based on international rules.
**£34.99**

# arcade

# adventure

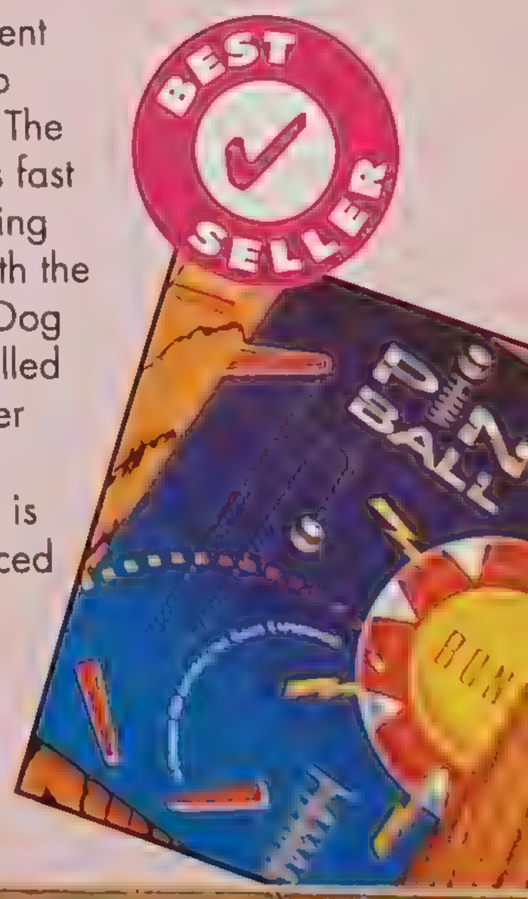
**LASER LORDS**
Explore alien worlds on the Laser Lords' star cruiser
**£29.99**




**MYSTIC MIDWAY: REST IN PIECES**
The interactive shooting gallery that's frightfully fun!
The 'master of cemeteries', Dr Dearth, welcomes you to his shooting gallery - Rest in Pieces - where his constant barrage of unwanted advice accompanies you as you fire at ghouls and ghosts and things that go bump in the night!
With fifteen targets, ten game levels and the chance to have multiple players' scores recorded in the High Score Hall of Fame.
**£29.99**

**ESCAPE FROM CYBER CITY**
The ultimate interactive action adventure! Your mission is to survive the dangers of CyberCity, fight your way to the train and destroy the Guardian's planet to save the Earth.This is the first CD-i action adventure to utilise full cel-animation, giving the player the feel of starring in a fast action motion picture. This title also features a dynamic, high impact soundtrack.
**£34.99**

**PINBALL**
A Pinball arcade right in your living room!
You can play four different games without having to 'feed' the slot machine! The robotic Cyber combines fast action with a complicating factor; enter the fray with the World War I - themed Dog Fight; Spring Break is filled with beach babes, surfer dudes and major wave action whilst Meltdown is totally nuclear! Fast-paced fun for all ages with amazing audio and video effects!
**£24.95**




**ALICE IN WONDERLAND**
Slip down a rabbit hole and encounter the familiar characters of Lewis Carroll!
**£24.99**

# What the pape

Reprinted from
**WHAT HI-FI** Supplement
September 1992

# The CD that talks back!

**The UK's first CD-i player** is a Philips' CD-i 205. In August we reviewed it – now we turn it over to three interested parties to put it to the test and give us their verdicts.

### Colville Nursery

Perched on pint-sized stools gathered around the Philips CD-i player and a TV set, the children of the Colville Nursery in North London pointed wide-eyed at the colourful screen before them.

"What's that?" they said – they'd seen computers and computer games before, but this was something a bit special. "Can we play with it?" said one little girl. "What's this?" asked another, her attention drawn to the yellow, red and blue Roller Controller, aimed specifically at junior users but apparently just as popular with those of us old enough to know better, and an optional extra at £50. Then as the player sprang into action, the room became silent, and all eyes fell on the screen. This would be a tough test for the CD-i player.

The school's nursery nurse Anne Rampersad was equally enthralled by Philips' CD-i player, and was soon pouring over a selection of children's discs. These included discs telling favourite children's stories, and words and numbers learning software from the makers of *Sesame Street*.

But did the CD-i player live up to their high expectations? *Sesame Street*'s numbers disc went down an absolute storm with the kids, said Rampersad, not only assisting the children with learning, but also helping to put them at ease with the machine's technology and operation. Computer literacy? "It's so important in this day and age," Rampersad said. The nursery caters for three to five year old children, and says Rampersad, the bottom line of their education should be making choices and helping each other; which using the CD-i promotes.

**Child's play** the Philips CD-i player goes down a storm at a North London nursery school

## CD-i selections

The range of discs, featuring animation, graphics and digital stereo sound, comes in the following categories. These are just some of the discs now available in each:

**Children's** A visit to Sesame Street – letters; Brer Rabbit and The Wonderful Tar Baby; Cartoon Jukebox; How the Camel got his Hump; Mother Goose Rhymes to Colour; Story Machine Magic Tales; Tell Me Why I; Paint School I

**Games** Battleship; Defender of the Crown; Text Tiles; The Palm Springs Open; Pinball; Backgammon; Caesar's World of Gambling; Connect 4

**Music** Classical Jukebox; Cool Oldies Jukebox; Golden Oldies Jukebox; Louis Armstrong; Pavarotti

**Special Interest** Rand McNally's America; US Atlas; Jigsaw; Time Life Photography; Treasures of the Sun (Vincent van Gogh); Renaissance of Florence

"They talked all the time about how they would use the CD-i player. It helped them in their imaginative and exploratory play. They enjoyed it more than the computer because they could take it further," she said.

Now Rampersad wishes Colville had a CD-i player rather than their less interactive Apple Macintosh computer, not least because it survived the children's often enthusiastic use.

One of the player's biggest uses is likely to be in schools, and if the Colville Nursery's experience is anything to go by, the next generation of kids will be learning from, and loving, CD-i.

# rs are saying...

# Playing the power game that will put you in charge

Daily Mail

It is sunny in Palm Springs and the wind is blowing gently behind me at 4mph. I have never played serious golf before, but the man doing the commentary for ABC television says the conditions are pretty near perfect.

The mountains sweep down towards the fairway in the distance and the idea is to drive the ball halfway round a 350 yard dogleg. Select the club. Position yourself. Decide how to hit the ball and give it a confident but controlled swing. Well, that's the theory.

Instead I give it a huge thwack with a poorly-chosen No 2 wood ... and the crowd jeers as it sails hopelessly off course into the rough.

Several attempts later - and with the benefit of advice from the commentator ("I was afraid we were going to have to break out a tent and camp overnight") - I land it on the green within feet of the hole it eventually finds.

If I were truly in Palm Springs I would have packed it in and found a quiet corner to rest in. But, thanks to the latest triumph in compact disc technology, I am there - on TV - and using computer-style graphics to *interact* with what's on screen; I can choose the club, the weight of the shot.

Because the technology gives me the power to change what happens on screen, I can almost believe I am the character I am watching.

The new system which produces this and a range of other challenges is called Compact Disc Interactive (CD-i). It is already sweeping across America, where it was launched in October, and is scheduled to hit shops in London this week, and across Britain during the summer at a price of £599.

The system stores sound, video clips, text, audio-visual effects, graphics and animation on compact discs that can be played on a special deck which plugs into a home television and stereo system and is operated by remote control. The machine will also play ordinary CDs.

The greatest difference between this and less sophisticated computer systems is that the user has more of a say in what happens, whether it is playing at the Palm Springs Open, touring Sesame Street, or choosing the outfits and storyline for a cartoon character.

The user can interact with the programmes to repaint cartoons, change endings of stories and go backwards and forwards within programmes, selecting whatever information is wanted.

CD-i proved to be one of the biggest hits of the Daily Mail Ideal Home Plus Exhibition. So I enlisted my son and daughter - and together we tested it.

Like many modern children they are in contact with some kind of computer almost daily. Last year we brought John, aged nine, a Game Boy - a hand-held computer which offers a range of games to tackle on a tiny black and white screen, and a favourite of Princess Diana's children.

We lost him for a time to the strange world of SuperMarioLand but once he learned the moves he craved more excitement.

On Sega's planet Janbarik, daughter Chrissy, 12, can wipe Janken The Great off the TV screen by firing from the hip at three paces.

But a Compact Disc Interactive system provides a television picture you can change.

First, the easy ones. Through the Cartoon Jukebox, for children aged three upwards, we select a picture of a red bus carrying passengers. Using a remote control we turn it into a yellow bus with a blue driver and pink passengers. The end result is animated to the music of The Wheels On The Bus.

With The Story Machine we start from scratch to conjure our own story using a hand-selected cast of heroes and villains, plus a range of scenes and useful objects. The fairy runs off with the lion and goes to live in the forest, as it turns out.

On Tell Me Why, a screen encyclopedia for children aged seven to 14, Chrissy is finding out answers to all the things that parents can be too stupid or too busy to reveal: What is blood? Why does a fluorescent light take so long to come on? What are falling stars? How do plants live? What are all the bits on a bee called?

More cautiously, I dabble in The Golden Oldies Jukebox. It plays songs in high-quality audio and puts a visual display on screen.

On the jukebox I select Woolly Bully (released in 1965 by Sam The Sham And The Pharoahs, it tells me). When the music plays, the lyrics come up on screen - thereby solving a puzzle which has troubled an entire generation for 27 years. So that's what it was all about.

Later I take an on-screen tour of the treasures in the Smithsonian Institution. Using the controller to bring up the image I 'walk' around an

object, zoom in on it and browse through the detailed notes.

The compact disc produces an image which is far more realistic than the usual 'flat' computer graphics. The golf, for instance, has real footage of some of the most famous holes in the world. Thousands of photographic stills are put together to form a continuous picture that looks like a piece of film footage.

There is already a wide range of adult and children's discs available but the potential for more is huge.

Philips and Kodak are doing a deal which will enable family snapshots and other stills negatives to be put on CD and shown as images on screen.

Through links with film companies it may become possible to change the plots of some famous screen successes. Maybe Butch Cassidy and Sundance did escape at the end. Perhaps that Harry Lime chap wasn't so bad after all. Did Robin Hood and Marion ever marry? CD-i works through a compact disc player linked to a TV screen by an aerial plug or euro connector. The five-inch discs have 650-megabyte memories. The remote control 'zapper', similar to those used for TV, is fitted with a 'thumbstick' so that cursors or arrows can be moved around the screen. A keyboard can be attached if necessary, as can a 'spinning ball' control for younger hands.

Compatibility with existing television hardware is no problem as Philips developed the system in partnership with Sony. Although it was launched in America, it was the brainchild of a Philips research lab at Redhill, Surrey.

Previously, laser-disc technology meant that interactive question-and-answer training programmes were available on PCs but their scope was limited.

Discs available initially in the UK will cover entertainment, education and information in four main areas: children's interest, music, games and special interest. Later titles will be introduced monthly.

Philips believes some of its biggest buyers will be parents with young children. Julie Davies, Marketing Services Manager of Philips Interactive Media Systems, said: "They will be the sort of parents who are interested in their children's development and education.

"With some of the discs, for instance, there is a certain amount of subliminal learning to help them with their numbers and their letters. The whole point is that it's fun - they are enjoying themselves.

"The potential for its future use is enormous. We are only only at the beginning of what people can do with the technology. It is limited only by people's imagination."

Reprinted by kind permission of the Daily Mail, 28th April 1992.

**by Paul Harris**

REPRINTED FROM VOX MAGAZINE JULY 1992

# BETA

# FACT

## Philips's new CD-i system integrates sound, vision, computer games and the family album. Is it a great leap for mankind - or another entry in the doomed gadget register?

Okay, bung away that Nintendo. Chris Rea sounds crap on it anyway. And sling away that CD player. Chris Rea sounds crap on it anyway, because he usually sounds crap. And kick out that video player, because let's face it, it doesn't work anyway, and who stocks Betamax these days? You don't need any of them, because they're about to be replaced by one thing: Compact Disc Interactive (CD-i).

Feeling better, less weighed down by junk? Good, because soon your house will be emptier than the Gobi Desert, and you might as well get used to it. Your photo album can go, because from now on you're storing your snapshots on disc. Dump your copy of VOX, because eventually your magazines will appear on CD *(you've fired - Ed)*. And throw out your dog, because you're nasty, cruel, and - once you've got into CD-i - you won't have money to spare for Pedigree Chum. Hey - don't cry. You can always pat the TV.

CD-i is intended to be the world's first fully integrated interactive entertainment system. It will show you visuals, play you music, and offer you education as well as mess up your brain with games. But you don't just sit there like an indolent couch potato with CD-i, you take part. Thanks to a joystick, a mouse or some other zapping device, you become an active and fully interactive couch potato. If you're the kind of sad person who wants to zoom in on your photos of the Greek nudist beach from last summer's holiday, you can. If your kids want to colour a bit of TV pink, there's no need to reach for the white spirit afterwards. If you want to play Battleships, there's no need to draw a grid on a piece of paper. And if you want your wife to have sex with your best friend, CD-Interactive will give you something to do while she's round at his place.

Okay, so you've heard it all before. Hardly a day goes by without the trumpeting of some amazing new technology that you don't know how you lived without ... for five minutes. And what's so new about games you can interact with? Anyone who's never heard of video games, kindly leave the page. Or bingo: that's interactive, come to that. We all remember the Super 8 movie camera, the eight-track cartridge, the paddle tennis game.

We're all as cautious as hell when it comes to stumping up for new, unproven technology. Some of us haven't even got CD players yet, fearful of the back panel notices that say 'Class One Laser Product. Do not insert your willy into this machine.' But this is the clever thing about CD-i: while it's all totally new, somehow it isn't...

Even though this new format is being heralded as a revolution in home entertainment, CD-i is basically the product of a large scale rationalisation programme. There's little here you can't do with other technologies, but not all at once, in one sleek, sexy little cabinet. Hence you get digital sound quality, as you'd expect from any CD player. You get visual sequences, as you'd expect from a LaserDisc system. You get computer games, although the titles aren't devastating - Connect 4, Pinball, Golf etc. However, the sound quality is far superior to anything your hand-held consoles can muster. You've long been able to put your photographs on a

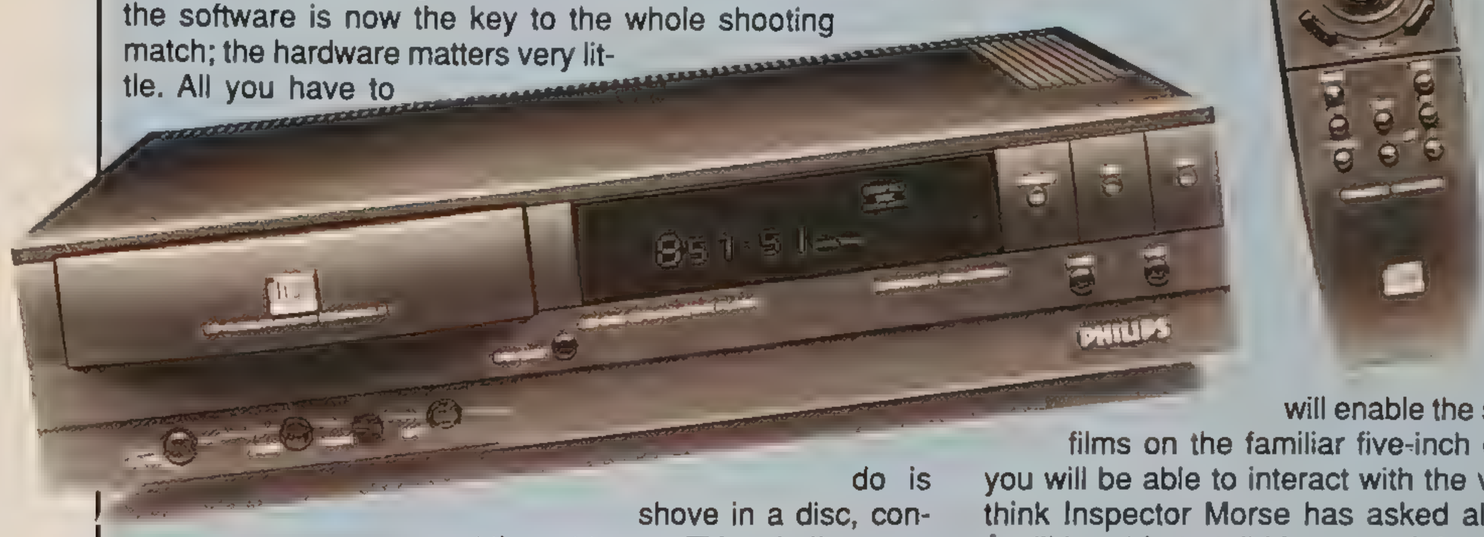
# CD-I: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

● The impetus for Compact Disc Interactive came from the computer industry. As Compact Disc took the music market by storm, the boffins began to realise its potential for storing loads of data. The problem was the computer industry's reputation for never being able to agree on anything. It took until 1985 for the idea of storing data other than music on CD to flourish.

In that year, Sony and Philips got together to agree the so-called Yellow Book standard, which laid down a fairly broad set of guidelines for a format which became known as CD-ROM—Compact Disc-Read Only Memory. A number of CD-ROM drives were introduced, but mixing computers and CD drives from different manufacturers proved a recipe for disaster, and only the most computer-literate console jockeys could extract the digits from the discs.

Obviously, this was no good to anyone. The need was for a format which could be understood and operated by the most technophobic and technologically illiterate. The solution was to significantly tighten standards, so that any disc could play in any machine, and in 1986 the Green Book standard for CD-I was agreed.

Although it took nearly five years for the first CD-I players to reach the market, this standard still rules, forming the basis for CD-I's promised multi-compatibility. The idea is very simple, and you don't need to know anything at all about computers or CD-I to get the best from the machines. In fact, the software is now the key to the whole shooting match; the hardware matters very little. All you have to do is shove in a disc, connect the set to your TV and off you go.




**The Philips CDI-205 Interactive CD player: don't insert your willy**

At the time of writing there are some 32 titles available, which span adventure games, interactive musical instrument tutors and factual material, such as a guided tour of a medieval city. With all these packages you simply move a cursor around the screen, and press a button when you want more information on a given topic, or if you want to perform a certain action, such as teeing up on the golf course.

The hardware is, out of necessity, fairly simple, but it does open up an whole new world of possibilities, and only time will tell whether the software developers will embrace the full capabilities of CD-I.

Perhaps the most well known proprietary CD-I system to date is Kodak's Photo CD, whereby your holiday snaps are transferred onto CD by your friendly local chemist, then replayed to your expectant grandmother via the family TV, complete with soundtrack should you so desire. CD-I also presents a number of opportunities to enhance the humble music CD, such as displaying the lyrics as the disc plays, and even showing the cover art-work on your TV screen.

This is really just the beginning, however. In the future, with more sophisticated techniques, it may well be possible to play recording engineer with your music: you'll be able to delete instruments, add your own guitar licks to favourite tracks or even remix the album entirely on your own interactive recording console. It's not entirely outside the bounds of possibility that record companies will include music videos on the CD-I versions of albums, which in turn may offer users the chance to edit their own vids.

The video side of CD-I is tied in with something called Full Motion Video (FMV), which is currently unavailable, but promised as an add-on package for existing machines some time later this year. With the advent of FMV, things really start to get interesting, because it will enable the storage of entire feature films on the familiar five-inch disc. Not only that, but you will be able to interact with the video footage, so if you think Inspector Morse has asked all the wrong questions, you'll be able to tell him so and thus influence the outcome of the programme you are watching.

This is not sci-fi, and not as far off as it sounds. CD-I players are in the shops now, and FMV is promised by the end of the year. Perhaps 1992 will be the year when the much abused (and maligned) term 'multi-media' finally fulfils the promise it has held out for the last decade. ***Andy Benham***

videotape, although you've not been able to juggle them around once they're on there (CD-i allows the sequencing of images, much the same as a CD allows you to shuffle tracks).

And of course 'paint' facilities and 'point and click' facilities are familiar from the world of computers. But in one lump for around £600? Now we're talking.

A CD-i player plugs into your TV and hi-fi. It will play your CDs, even the embarrassing ones you bought when you were drunk. It will show you video programmes such as *Cool Oldies Jukebox*, in which James Brown and Jerry Butler appear on your TV screen at the same time as bumf and trivia about the artists and songs. It will offer you a chance to 'interview' Louis Armstrong on *An American Songbook*, although exactly how you're gonna interview ol' Satchmo without resort to a medium is hard to fathom. And there's *Mother Goose Rhymes To Colour* - but that's a bit too complicated for me. The question is: do we need it?

To be frank, despite the corporate weight being slung behind it, CD-i may be a toughie to market. What is it? Is it a music system, a video system, a games machine or a computer? Maybe it offers too much. If you're an opera buff, you might well feel patronised by a CD of Pavarotti that translates 'Nessun Dorma' into English. If you've already spent £400 on a video recorder, you'll be reluctant to fork out for a playback device. And CD-i isn't (yet) as tasty as a Mac Classic computer.

Somehow CD-i must be sold as a total, all-embracing package. And for a world used to strict demarcation lines between technologies, that's going to seem very odd indeed. However, if you're about to fork out for a mid-range CD player, you might as well get one of these. Philips (who else?) are clearly unafraid of new tech: they've launched the system in the UK six months earlier than advertised.

Is it a revolution in home entertainment? Probably not. Although it's interactive, it's not the same as being able to tell the participants in Question Time that they're talking a lot of tosh about the homeless.

In a couple of years, if the range of software titles expands at the rate it's intended to, maybe we can trot out the full orchestra to play a symphony or tootle a raspberry. In the meantime, anyone want to buy a Betamax video? And more to the point, has anyone seen my wife?

**By Ian McCann**

# events

## CD-i has to be seen to be believed!

That's why Philips is making CD-i available to as many people as possible for hands-on demonstrations - whether it be in the actual shops or at other related events.

During this autumn, CD-i is on show at 20 shopping centres nationwide in conjunction with the Department for Education's roadshow - bringing the curriculum to parents. A further 10 centres are scheduled for spring 1993.

The Future Entertainment Show

The Future Entertainment Show promises to be a spectacular event where the latest CD-i titles will be available - so come and have a go! At Earls Court, London from 5 - 8 November 1992.

Ticket Hotline **051-356 5085**

## GamesMaster live!

From 4 - 6 December 1992 at the NEC, Birmingham, the ultimate in games shows invites you to take part.

CD-i, with its realistic games titles, is an attraction at this event - so come and try the latest games!

NEC Booking Office **021 780 4133**

Throughout 1993, there will be a continuing programme designed to bring CD-i to you in lots of imaginative ways!

**NEED MORE *info***

Where to Buy – call **0800 885 885**

Trade Hotline – call **0306 731412**

Consumer Help Desk – call **081 665 6350**

# THE CD-i catalogu

| Childrens | Catalogue No. | Price |
|---|---|---|
| Cartoon Jukebox | 690 001 2 | 19.95 |
| Childrens' Musical Theatre | 690 008 2 | 19.99 |
| The Dark Fables of Aesop | 690 085 2 | 19.99 |
| More Dark Fables of Aesop | 690 086 2 | 19.99 |
| Mother Goose Hidden Pictures | 690 015 2 | 14.95 |
| Mother Goose Rhymes to Color | 690 016 2 | 14.95 |
| Paint School I | 690 009 2 | 14.95 |
| Paint School II | 690 002 2 | 14.95 |
| Richard Scarry's Best Neighborhood disc | 690 037 2 | 19.99 |
| Richard Scarry's Busiest Neighborhood disc | 690 038 2 | 19.99 |
| Sandy's Circus Adventure | 690 022 2 | 19.95 |
| Sesame Street - Letters | 690 018 2 | 24.95 |
| Sesame Street - Numbers | 690 019 2 | 24.95 |
| Story Machine: Magic Tales | 690 025 2 | 24.95 |
| Story Machine: Star Dreams | 690 024 2 | 24.95 |
| Tell Me Why I | 690 003 2 | 29.95 |
| Tell Me Why II | 690 004 2 | 29.95 |
| **Storybooks** | | |
| Beauty and the Beast | 690 114 2 | 14.99 |
| Brer Rabbit & the Wonderful Tar Baby | 690 045 2 | 14.95 |
| The Emperor's New Clothes | 690 042 2 | 14.95 |
| How the Camel Got His Hump | 690 021 2 | 14.95 |
| How the Rhino Got His Skin | 690 023 2 | 14.95 |
| Pecos Bill | 690 012 2 | 14.95 |
| **Childrens Bible Stories** | | |
| Moses Bound for the Promised Land | 690 066 2 | 29.99 |
| Moses: The Exodus | 690 032 2 | 29.99 |
| Noah's Ark | 690 032 2 | 29.99 |
| **Coming soon** | **Catalogue No.** | **Price** |
| Face Kitchen | 811 000 2 | 24.99 |
| Jonah & the Whale (Bible Story) | 690 067 2 | 29.99 |
| Pegasus (Storybook) | 690 192 2 | 14.99 |
| Father Christmas (Storybook) | 690 192 2 | 14.99 |
| Zombie Dinos from Planet Zeltoid | 690 084 2 | 29.99 |

| Music | Catalogue No. | Price |
|---|---|---|
| Classical Jukebox | 690 005 2 | 14.95 |
| Golden Oldies Jukebox | 690 006 2 | 14.95 |
| Jazz Giants | 690 096 2 | 14.99 |
| Louis Armstrong | 690 031 2 | 14.95 |
| Mozart | 690 041 2 | 14.95 |
| Pavarotti | 690 040 2 | 14.95 |
| Prelude | 690 107 2 | 14.99 |
| **Coming soon** | **Catalogue No.** | **Price** |
| James Brown: Non-Stop Hit Machine (1965-71) | 690 194 2 | 14.99 |
| A Revolution in Color | 690 153 2 | 14.99 |

## SPECIAL OFFERS ON CD-i DISCS

- Buy a Philips CD-i Player and receive a FREE disc when you register your purchase! (Details in box).
- Buy a Philips CD-i title and you can start collecting VOUCHERS to be redeemed against FREE titles from the CD-i catalogue. (Details in every pack).

| Games | Catalogue No. | Price |
|---|---|---|
| Backgammon | 690 039 2 | 24.95 |
| Battleship | 690 033 2 | 24.95 |
| Caesars World of Gambling | 690 027 2 | 19.95 |
| Connect 4 | 690 020 2 | 14.95 |
| Dark Castle | 690 026 2 | 29.95 |
| Defender of the Crown | 690 069 2 | 14.95 |
| Escape from CyberCity | 690 071 2 | 34.99 |
| Jigsaw | 690 029 2 | 29.95 |
| Mystic Midway: Rest in Pieces | 690 152 2 | 29.99 |
| The Palm Springs Open | 690 013 2 | 39.95 |
| Pinball | 690 034 2 | 24.95 |
| Sargon Chess | 690 030 2 | 29.95 |
| Tetris | 690 074 2 | 24.99 |
| Text Tiles | 690 043 2 | 14.95 |
| **Coming soon** | **Catalogue No.** | **Price** |
| ABC Sports: Power Hitter | 690 081 2 | 29.99 |
| Alice in Wonderland | 690 065 2 | 24.99 |
| CD Shoot | 811 001 4 | 34.99 |
| Great British Golf | 690 159 2 | 24.99 |
| GO | 811 010 0 | 29.99 |
| Laser Lords | 690 074 2 | 29.99 |
| Tangram | 811 001 5 | 24.99 |
| Third Degree | 690 073 2 | 29.99 |
| Video Speedway | 690 093 2 | 34.99 |

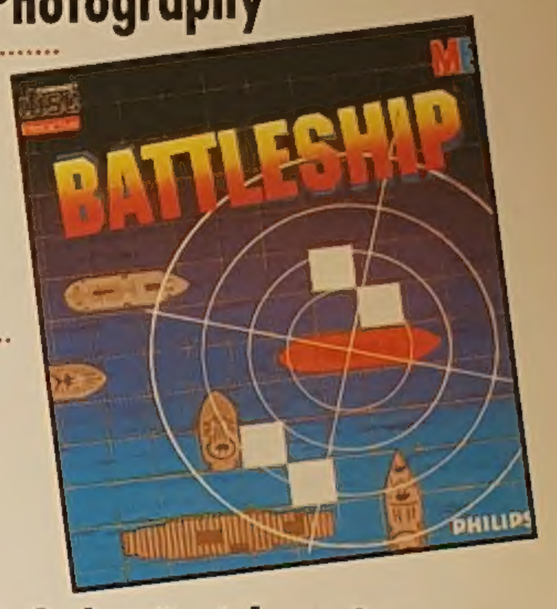
| Special Interest | Catalogue No. | Price |
|---|---|---|
| Create your own Caricature | 811 000 1 | 29.99 |
| The French Impressionists | 690 046 2 | 29.95 |
| Harvest of the Sun: Van Gogh | 690 028 2 | 34.95 |
| Rand McNally's America: US Atlas | 690 014 2 | 34.95 |
| Renaissance of Florence | 690 036 2 | 29.95 |
| Stamps: Windows of the World | 690 011 2 | 19.95 |
| Time Life Photography | 690 017 2 | 34.95 |
| Treasures of the Smithsonian | 690 010 2 | 34.95 |
| **Coming soon** | **Catalogue No.** | **Price** |
| The Amparo Museum | 690 183 2 | 29.99 |
| Art of the Czars | 690 105 2 | 29.99 |
| Dutch Masters of the 17th Century | 690 123 2 | 29.99 |
| Private Lessons: Classical Guitar | 811 010 2 | 49.99 |
| Private Lessons: Jazz Guitar | 811 010 1 | 49.99 |
| Renaissance Gallery | 690 044 2 | 29.99 |
| Rembrandt: His Art and the Music of His Era | 690 154 2 | 14.99 |
| What's that Bird? | 811 001 3 | 29.99 |
| World of Impressionism | 690 047 2 | 29.99 |

*All prices and release dates are provisional*

## TOP TEN BEST SELLERS

1. Palm Springs Open

2. Pinball
3. Time Life Photography




4. Battleship
5. Treasures of the Smithsonian
6. Cartoon Jukebox
7. Sesame Street Numbers
8. Sesame Street Letters

9. Pavarotti
10. Connect 4

PHILIPS

# Without CD-i, you're only using half of it.

CD-i stands for 'Compact Disc, Interactive' and it makes your television exactly that, interactive. That means you can ask questions, play games, explore foreign countries, do a course on photography, even record your holiday snapshots, all on your own TV – definitely not something for couch potatoes. There's a huge range of CD-i discs stretching from golf at Palm Springs, for adults, all the way down to Sesame Street, for kids, and it all comes in something that looks like a compact disc player. Since it's also a top of the range CD player, you can plug it into your Hi-Fi and play all your existing CDs. There's so much to this incredible new system that the only way to really appreciate it is to try it out for yourself. You can find out where to see CD-i by calling the number opposite. Once you see a demonstration you'll realise that so far as television goes, you haven't seen the half of it.

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